

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 620

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Dr. Donald J. Boatright for his skill as a physician and his dedication as a public servant.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause to specially recognize those physicians who have distinguished themselves not only as capable physicians in private practice but as dedicated public servants as well; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Dr. Donald J. Boatright, who has been a member of the Nashville medical community since 1982; Dr. Boatright has served the people of the area in a number of capacities, treating patients as a hospitalist and in private practice, caring for those incarcerated within the state's prison system, and working to educate the doctors of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Donald Boatright completed his undergraduate education at Tennessee State University, from which he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering; and

WHEREAS, after receiving his engineering degree, Donald Boatright took a position as an Assistant Engineer to the Senior Staff Engineer in the Sperry Rand Space Division of the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama; while still serving in that role, he began to teach engineering part-time at Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University in 1976; and

WHEREAS, although Donald Boatright earned a Master of Science in engineering from the University of Huntsville in 1978, his career took a radical turn later that year when he began his medical school education at Meharry Medical College, from which he graduated four years later; and

WHEREAS, completing his residency in internal medicine at Meharry in 1985, Dr. Boatright assumed a position at the school as a Clinical Instructor in the Department of Internal Medicine; he became board certified in Internal Medicine in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Boatright has been affiliated with Meharry and Nashville Metropolitan General Hospital ever since; in 1992, he became an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Meharry, and in 2002 he became the Director of Ambulatory Clinics in the Department of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, currently, Dr. Boatright serves as an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Meharry as well as the Hospitalist Director at Meharry Medical College and Nashville General Hospital; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Dr. Donald Boatright became involved in caring for the State's prison population as an internal medicine consultant with the Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC); from 2004 to 2008, Dr. Boatright served as the Medical Director for Health and Clinical Services for the TDOC; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the integrity of his profession and the highest standards of medical care, Dr. Boatright has served on various committees and in a number of administrative positions; he is truly a leader among his peers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Boatright is a Diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine and a member of the R. F. Boyd Medical Society; and

WHEREAS, the well-being of all Tennesseans depends in no small part on the dedication of physicians such as Dr. Donald Boatright, who devote considerable time and energy to public health, administrative leadership, and the teaching of the next generation's doctors; and

WHEREAS, the medical community of this State is fortunate indeed to count Dr. Boatright among its members, and he should be duly recognized for his years of service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Dr. Donald J. Boatright for his skill as a

physician and his dedication as a public servant, thank him for all he has done to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.